

**Phase Ia Archaeological Reconnaissance Survey of Intersection Improvement on SR 245 at
County Road 1600N and East Junction with SR 162 and SR 245 in Spencer County,
Indiana,
Project STP-4174(), Des. 0015040.**

by
Johnie Sanders
and
Melody Pope, P.I.

prepared for
Indiana Department of Transportation
100 North Senate Avenue, Room N848
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2228

prepared by
Office of Cultural Resource Management
Glenn A. Black Laboratory of Archaeology
9th and Fess Streets
Bloomington, Indiana 47405

Christopher S. Peebles
Director

Report of Investigations 03-01
February 2003

Introduction and Management Summary

At the request of Indiana Department of Transportation, the Glenn A. Black Laboratory of Archaeology, Indiana University (GBL) conducted a Phase Ia archaeological survey for proposed intersection improvements on SR 245 at County Road 1600N and east junction with SR 162 and SR 245 in Spencer County. The project area is located in Santa Claus, Indiana. A right-of-way allowance of 28 feet (9 m) was applied to either side of the centerline of the proposed new section of CR 1600N. The project area is approximately .2 acres in size. Due to the high level of disturbance within the project area, the entire area was subjected to an overview, not a shovel probe survey (Figure 2).

The purposes of survey were 1) to identify and document all cultural resources in the project area, 2) to evaluate any sites found with regard to their eligibility for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and the Indiana Register of Historic Sites and Structures (IRHSS), and 3) to make recommendations for the protection of significant and potentially significant sites.

Fieldwork was conducted on February 4, 2003 by GBL archaeologist Johnie Sanders. The entire project area had been disturbed by previous development. In these areas, gravel, concrete, or subsoil was visible on the surface. A single auger probe was excavated in the area that was not covered with concrete or gravel to determine the extent of subsurface disturbance. The probe revealed that no intact "A" horizon soils were present. No previously unrecorded archaeological sites were documented during the survey. Given the high level of disturbance, it is the opinion of the GBL-OCRM that it is unlikely that any cultural resources exist within the project area, thus no further archaeological investigation is needed. Cultural resource clearance is therefore recommended for the proposed intersection improvement provided that all earth-moving activities are restricted to the currently delineated project area boundaries.

*Abstract created by Patrick Sovereign
October 2019*